

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
UTILITY DIVISION
AGENDA NO. 05-10-20**

Date Published: October 13, 2005
For Work Week Commencing: October 17, 2005
Commission Meeting: October 20, 2005, 9:00 a.m.

General Introduction This agenda is the Commission's Utility Division agenda for the work week designated. In the later part of each week (generally, Thursday by 2:00 p.m.) prior to the work week to which an agenda pertains, the agenda is posted on the public information bulletin board at the Commission offices, deposited in the mail directed to all persons who have properly requested notice by mail, emailed to all persons who have properly requested notice by email, and posted to the Public Service Commission's worldwide web site located at <http://www.psc.state.mt.us>.

Place of Meetings All meetings are held at the Commission offices, 1701 Prospect Avenue, Helena, Montana, unless otherwise noted.

Inquiries General inquiries concerning this Utility Division agenda and subscribing to notice by mail may be made to Kate Whitney at (406) 444-3056. She may refer inquiries to another person within the agency.

Accommodation for Persons with Disabilities Anyone needing an accommodation for physical, hearing, or sight impairment in order to attend a scheduled meeting should contact the Commission secretary at (406) 444-6199 sufficiently prior to the meeting to allow accommodations to be made.

9:00 a.m. Weekly Scheduling (Commission Conference Room)

9:30 a.m. Business (Bollinger Room)

Public Comments

Action Items All items identified below are for action at the Commission business meeting.

1. Winter Termination Policy (no docket)
(Phil)

The PSC's winter termination rules require regulated utilities to obtain PSC approval before shutting off electric or natural gas service to a nonpaying residential customer from November 1 to April 1. Commission policy has been to delegate authority on an annual basis to the PSC compliance staff to approve or disapprove utility requests for winter shutoffs. Staff seeks PSC action on delegation of authority for this winter's shutoff requests. Probable motion: Move to delegate authority to compliance staff to approve or disapprove winter shutoff requests.

Work Sessions All items identified below are for Commission discussion or action on the day designated.

1. D2003.1.14 – WWC Holding Co./Alltel Communications, Inc. – Motion for term protective order for quarterly filings as ETC – Discussion, direction, action on motion, other matters as necessary. (10/20/05)
2. Reply comments to be filed with the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service – Discuss the content of comments to be filed in CC 96-45. The Federal-State Joint Board (FSJB) on Universal Service issued on August 17, 2005 a Public Notice inviting comments in FCC 05J-1. In a recent September 13th Public Notice, the FSJB extended the deadline by which reply comments must be filed. The reply comment deadline is now October 31st. (10/20/05)
3. D2005.9.145 – PSC – Early winter shut-off moratorium – NorthWestern Energy, Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., and Energy West Montana – Placeholder for post hearing discussion. (10/20/05)
4. FERC EL05-124 – PPL Montana – FERC's Section 206 Proceeding regarding PPL Montana's authority to sell electricity at market based rates – Informational – Update the Commission on PPL Montana's request for rehearing and the impact it may have on this docket. The Commission may discuss other matters and take action related to the docket. (10/20/05)
5. D2004.7.99, D2004.12.192, D2005.6.106 – Northwestern Energy and PSC – NorthWestern Energy gas and electric USB consolidated dockets – Placeholder for further post hearing discussion, direction, action as necessary. (10/20/05)
6. D2003.7.86, D2004.6.96, D2005.6.103 – NorthWestern Energy – Motions for protective order in QF/AC consolidated dockets – Discussion, direction, action on motions, other matters as necessary. (10/20/05)
7. N2005.6.101 – NorthWestern Energy – Natural gas procurement rules or tariffs, motion for protective order – Discussion, direction, action on motion, other matters as necessary. (10/20/05)
8. N2005.6.101 – NorthWestern Energy – Natural gas procurement rules or tariffs – Discussion, direction, action on intervenor testimony, other matters as necessary. (10/20/05)

Other Meetings

Weekly Scheduling – Will be held at 9:00 a.m. on the day of the Commission Meeting

Notice Items All items identified below are noticed for public participation purposes. Unless otherwise stated in the text of the notice, the items will be action items on the next following agenda or a subsequent agenda and participation may be had by submitting written comments to the Public Service Commission, 1701 Prospect Avenue, P.O. Box 202601, Helena, Montana, 59620-2601, within 5 calendar days following publication of this agenda. Public comments on a noticed matter may also be submitted within the required time through the PSC's web-based comment form at <http://psc.mt.gov/Consumers/comments>. Comments should reference the docket number of the matter.

1. Qwest Services Corporation N2005.10.149 (Kim)

On October 3, 2005 Qwest filed for Commission approval a Master Service Agreement (MSA) between Qwest and Costco Telecommunications, Inc. This filing was submitted pursuant to *Section 2.18 - Volume and Term Discounts to Large Business Customers with a Multi-State Presence* of Qwest's Exchange and Network Services Tariffs. The MSA is the result of a competitive bidding process to provide Digital Switched Service (DSS) service

2. Qwest Services Corporation N2005.10.152 (Kim)

On October 7, 2005 Qwest filed for Commission approval a Master Service Agreement (MSA) between Qwest and Borders Group, Inc. This filing was submitted pursuant to *Section 2.18 - Volume and Term Discounts to Large Business Customers with a Multi-State Presence* of Qwest's Exchange and Network Services Tariffs. The MSA is the result of a competitive bidding process to provide a Business Line Volume Purchase Plan for qualifying services associated with the aggregate volume purchase of business access lines.

Protective Orders – Notice Items The Commission has received the following requests for protective order pursuant to ARM 38.2.5007. The Commission will rule on the requests no earlier than 10 days after the publication date of this agenda. Comments on the requests may be submitted at any time prior to ruling. Any person

wanting a copy of a protective order request should contact the Commission at (406) 444-6199.

Protective Orders – Information Items The Commission has issued the following protective orders. These orders may be challenged pursuant to ARM 38.2.5008. Copies of these orders may be obtained by calling the Commission at (406) 444-6199

Information Items All items identified below are for information only.

New Filings Received in Past Week

N2005.10.152 – Qwest Corporation and Borders Group, Inc. – Master Service Agreement

N2005.10.153 – CenturyTel Montana – Transmittal 2005-5 – New Custom-Calling Feature Call Transfer